

The NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) invites residents and medical students to participate in an **Elective in Public Health**. The DOHMH is a dynamic environment where elective participants can experience a large local health department tackling urban public health issues.

Elective participants receive a broad overview of DOHMH responsibilities and functions through field visits, meetings and lectures. They will observe the clinician/health department partnership in order to better serve their patients and communities.

The elective provides a unique opportunity to work on a project with DOHMH professionals. By participating in the day-to-day work of the DOHMH, the trainee—whether future clinician or public health specialist—will experience a variety of measures employed to promote wellness and prevent illness in individuals, groups, and the population as a whole.

What kinds of elective projects have been conducted?

- Ebola Screening and Isolation Protocols
- Perinatal Hepatitis B case management
- Autoimmune disease in the World Trade Center Health Registry cohort
- BMI of incarcerated population at Riker's Island
- Focus groups on childhood asthma
- Health of women prisoners at Rikers Island
- Literature review on the link of obesity and cancer
- Infant Safe Sleep Policy
- Analysis of NYC Urgent Centers' Emergency Preparedness
- HIV Pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis provider education
- Perinatal Hepatitis B data quality assurance
- "By My Side" birth support and Text4Baby Programs
- Tobacco cessation in the psychiatric population

What kinds of activities are available?

- Field visits:
 - Restaurant inspection
 - Lead poisoning investigation
 - Day care center inspection
 - Newborn home visits
- Grand Rounds
- Journal Club
- DOHMH seminars
- Board of Health meetings
- Meetings with community coalitions
- Meetings with DOHMH staff

Residents should be enrolled in an ACGME-accredited residency program. Residents training in programs outside the United States may also apply.

Medical students should be enrolled in an accredited medical school. It is helpful to have completed a basic medical school epidemiology course.

Elective participants are responsible for housing and financial support; stipends are not available to assist with these expenses. Credit for the elective should be arranged by the participant through his or her residency or school.

**The DOHMH
Public Health/Preventive Medicine
Residency Program**
trains physicians to specialize
in these fields.

For more information, visit <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/about/employment/residency-program.page> or see reverse for contact information.

On September 11, 2001 and during the weeks that followed, hundreds of thousands of workers, volunteers and area residents were exposed to dust from the collapse of the World Trade Center (WTC) towers. These persons are at increased risk for persistent respiratory symptoms, asthma and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Action: The largest public health registry in United States history, the WTC Health Registry (WTCHR) tracks the long-term physical and mental health of more than 71,000 people directly exposed to the WTC disaster. The important information obtained from the WTCHR helps guide clinical services and inform compensation programs for this population. The NYC Health Department plans to launch the 4th survey of Registry enrollees in early 2015.

More than one in five New York City public school children is obese, putting them at risk for diabetes, heart disease and early mortality. The childhood obesity rate is a marker for children's access to healthy food and opportunities for physical activity.

Action: In September 2014, the NYC Health Department, in partnership with local organizations, launched the *Farm to Preschool* initiative to bring fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables to participating preschools throughout the city. Once a week, parents, preschool staff, and community members can purchase a farm fresh produce box containing locally grown fruits and vegetables to improve community access to affordable, healthy food.

Preventable conditions cause hundreds of thousands of cases of illness and thousands of deaths in New York City each year. Health disparities persist among racial, ethnic, socioeconomic and geographic subpopulations.

Action: *Take Care New York (TCNY) 2016*, the 4th NYC strategic health agenda, aims to improve the health status of all New Yorkers, advance health-promoting policies and activities, and create, sustain, and strengthen community collaborations. Twelve evidence-based priority areas focus on promoting the health of children and youth and on reducing health inequities. The Health Department utilizes media campaigns, partner networks, educational materials and tools for health care providers. Progress on goals is measured by collecting data on health indicators.

To schedule an elective, e-mail:

healthrp@health.nyc.gov

or contact:

**Public Health / Preventive Medicine
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NYC DOHMH
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Elective in Public Health and Preventive Medicine

for Residents and Medical Students

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
and MENTAL HYGIENE**



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